

FACT SHEET



Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) Site Riverdale, Iowa

June 2002

INTRODUCTION

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has signed an Action Memorandum that documents EPA approval for the removal action at the Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) - Davenport Works facility. The Action Memorandum explains how Alcoa will address the contamination of the surface water, sediments, soil, and groundwater. The contamination is a result of aluminum production and waste management activities. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are the contaminants of concern. The contaminated areas are within the Eastern Historical Disposal Site (EHDS) and Outfall 002 areas of the Alcoa facility.

Alcoa prepared an Engineering Evaluation/ Cost Analysis (EE/CA). The EE/CA evaluated removal action alternatives to address:

- exposure to surface water and sediment in a wetland area of the EHDS; and
- the potential for groundwater migration to the Mississippi River via Outfall 002 surface water.

The EPA-selected removal action for the EHDS includes:

- installing fill material and grading the wetland area; and
- installing an open-top drainage channel to

isolate water in the north portion of Outfall 002 ditch from the impacted material beneath.

Prior to starting the removal action, Alcoa will prepare a Removal Action Work Plan for EPA review and approval.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Alcoa facility is next to the Mississippi River and occupies about 460 acres in Riverdale, near the Quad Cities. The Alcoa facility is bounded on the north by State Route 67, on the south by the Mississippi River, on the east by the Riverside Power Plant, and on the west by a petroleum storage facility and homes located along South Bellingham Street. The facility, the world's largest aluminum rolling mill, began operations in the late 1940s.

SITE ACTIVITIES

EPA and Alcoa signed an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) in August, 1995, that required Alcoa to evaluate/investigate the units identified in the Facility Site Assessment (FSA) Report. The FSA Report documented more than 75 areas that would require some level of further evaluation/investigation due to the likelihood of past hazardous substance releases from production or waste management activities.

Of these 75 areas, 44 have been evaluated to date. It was determined that a removal action was necessary for the EHDS and the Outfall 002

drainage area. Based on the information and risk evaluation, it was determined that the other FSA units investigated to date do not require further action.

An ecological evaluation of the FSA units was also conducted and is documented in the September 2001 report, "Ecological Risk Characterization - Facility Site Assessment Units." Implementation of the removal action for the wetland area of the EHDS will address the potential risk to ecological receptors.

The 1995 AOC also requires a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to determine the nature and extent of groundwater contamination. The groundwater RI/FS is ongoing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A copy of the signed Action Memorandum for the EHDS and Outfall 002 areas of the Alcoa facility, including EPA's response to the comments received during the public comment period, is included in the Administrative Record. The Administrative Record is available to the public during normal business hours at the Bettendorf Public Library, 2950 Learning Campus Drive, Bettendorf, Iowa.

Questions about the Action Memorandum or the Alcoa site should be directed to:

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